

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
1 March 2001 (01.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/13953 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A61K 45/06 D-78462 Konstanz (DE). WEIMAR, Christian; Eichhornstrasse 51, D-78464 Konstanz (DE).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/07852 (72) Inventor; and

(22) International Filing Date: 11 August 2000 (11.08.2000) (75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): KILIAN, Ulrich [DE/DE]; Am Dachsberg 18, D-78479 Reichenau (DE).

(25) Filing Language: English (74) Common Representative: BYK GULDEN LOMBERG CHEMISCHE FABRIK GMBH; Patentabteilung, Byk-Gulden-Strasse 2, D-78467 Konstanz (DE).

(26) Publication Language: English (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AL, AU, BA, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, EE, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KR, LT, LV, MK, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, TR, UA, US, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(30) Priority Data:  
99116447.6 21 August 1999 (21.08.1999) EP (84) Designated States (*regional*): Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): BYK GULDEN LOMBERG CHEMISCHE FABRIK GMBH [DE/DE]; Patentabteilung, Byk-Gulden-Strasse 2, D-78467 Konstanz (DE).

(72) Inventors (*for all designated States except CA, US*): BEUME, Rolf; Bohlstrasse 13, D-78465 Konstanz (DE). BUNDSCHUH, Daniela; Rheingutstrasse 17, D-78462 Konstanz (DE).

(72) Inventors (*for all designated States except CA, US*): HATZELMANN, Armin; Alter Wall 3, D-78467 Konstanz (DE). SCHUDT, Christian; Schützenstrasse 20,

Published:

— *Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

WO 01/13953 A2

(54) Title: SYNERGISTIC COMBINATION

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the combined administration of PDE inhibitors and  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists for the treatment of respiratory tract disorders.

**Synergistic combination****Field of application of the invention**

The invention relates to the combination of certain known active compounds for therapeutic purposes.

The substances used in the combination according to the invention are known active compounds from the PDE inhibitors class and active compounds from the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists class. Their combined use in the sense according to the invention for therapeutic purposes has not yet been described in the prior art.

**Description of the invention**

It is the object of the present invention to make available respiratory tract therapeutics which fulfill the following conditions:

- Good antiinflammatory action
- Marked bronchorelaxation and -dilatation
- Good oral availability, at least with respect to the PDE inhibitor
- Minor side effects
- Good suitability for long-term therapy
- Favorable influence on bronchial hyperreactivity.

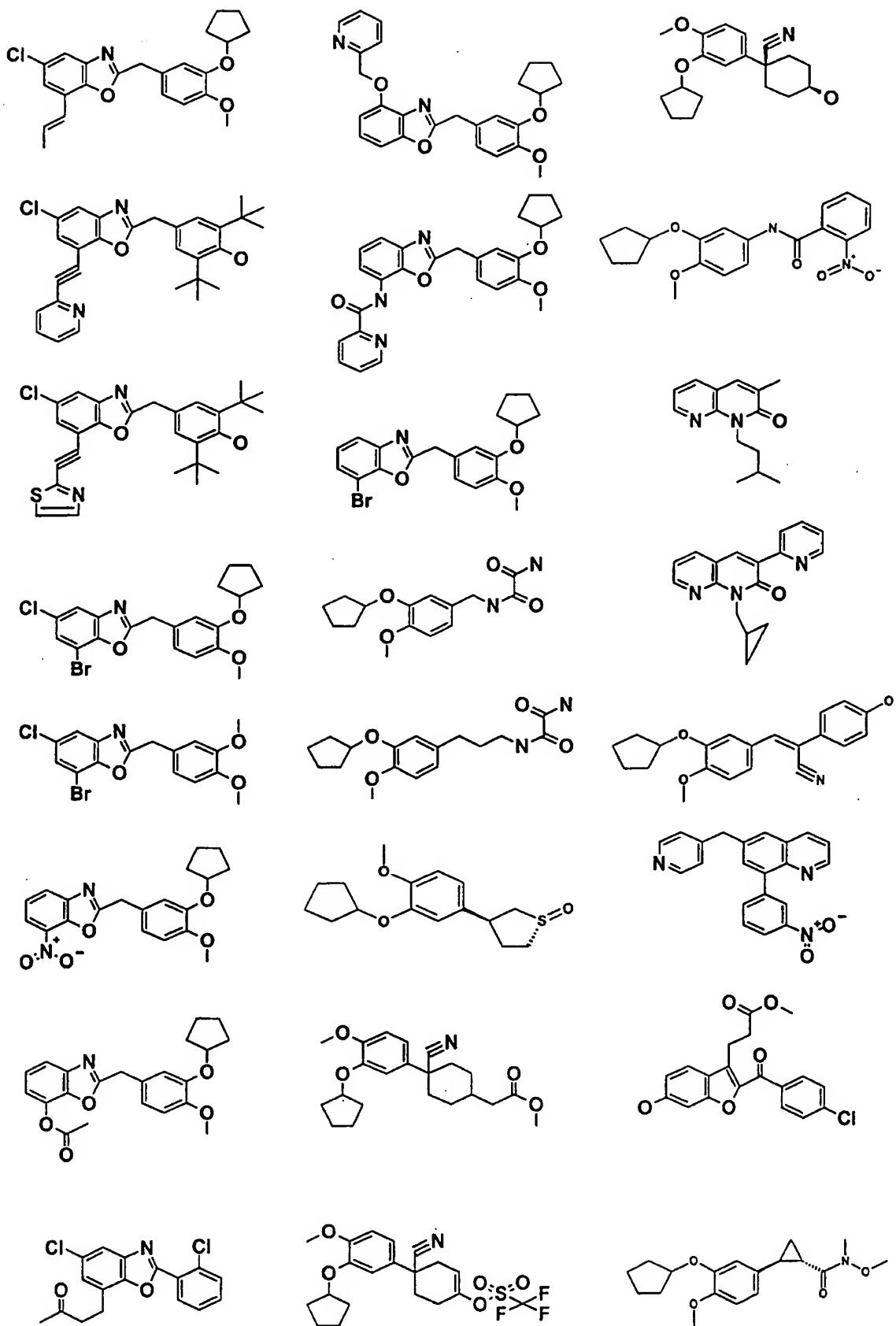
It has now been found that the combined use of a PDE inhibitor which can be used as a respiratory tract therapeutic and of a  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist outstandingly fulfills the abovementioned conditions.

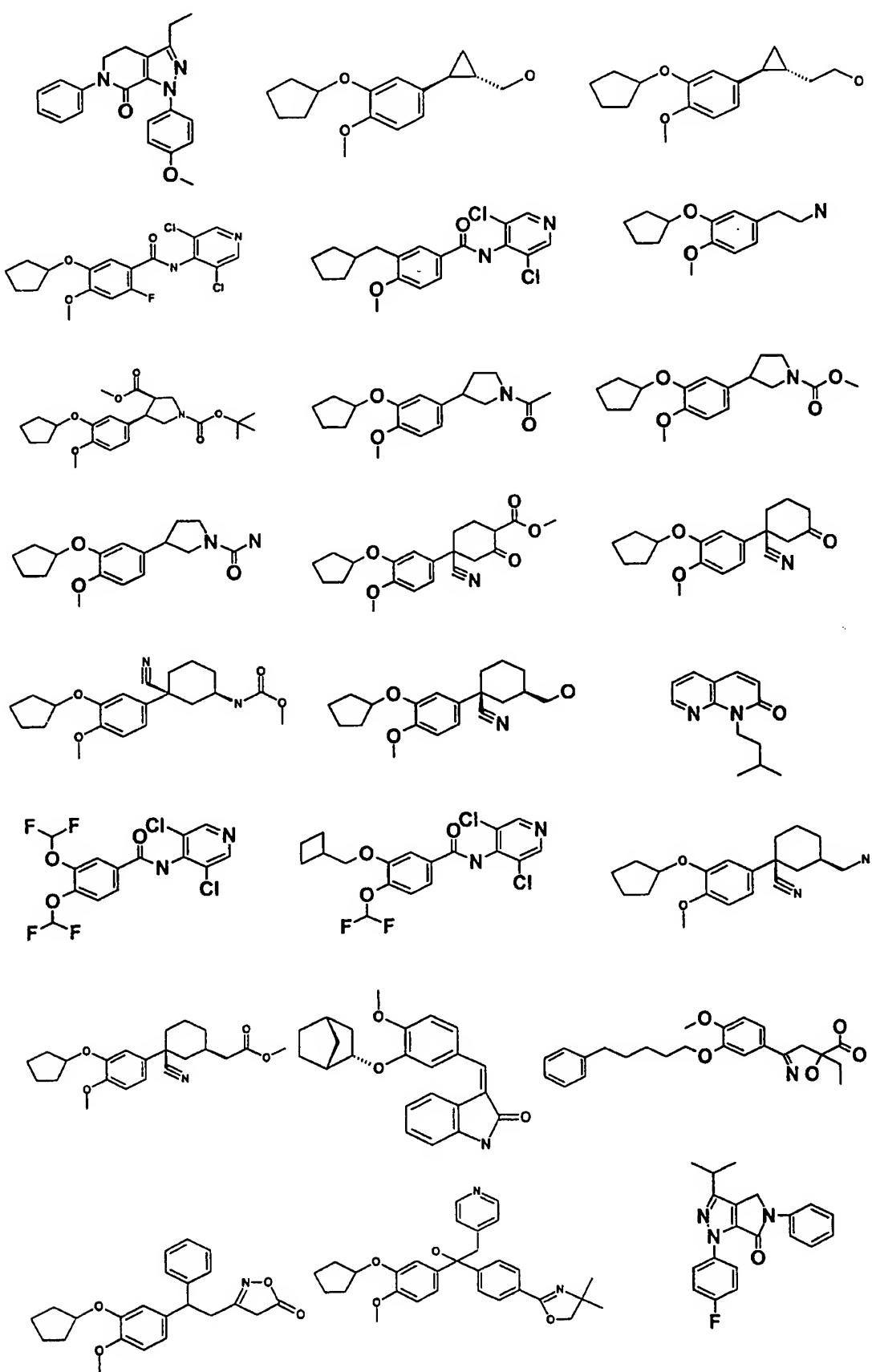
The invention thus relates to the combined use of a PDE inhibitor which can be used as a respiratory tract therapeutic and a  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist in the treatment of respiratory tract disorders.

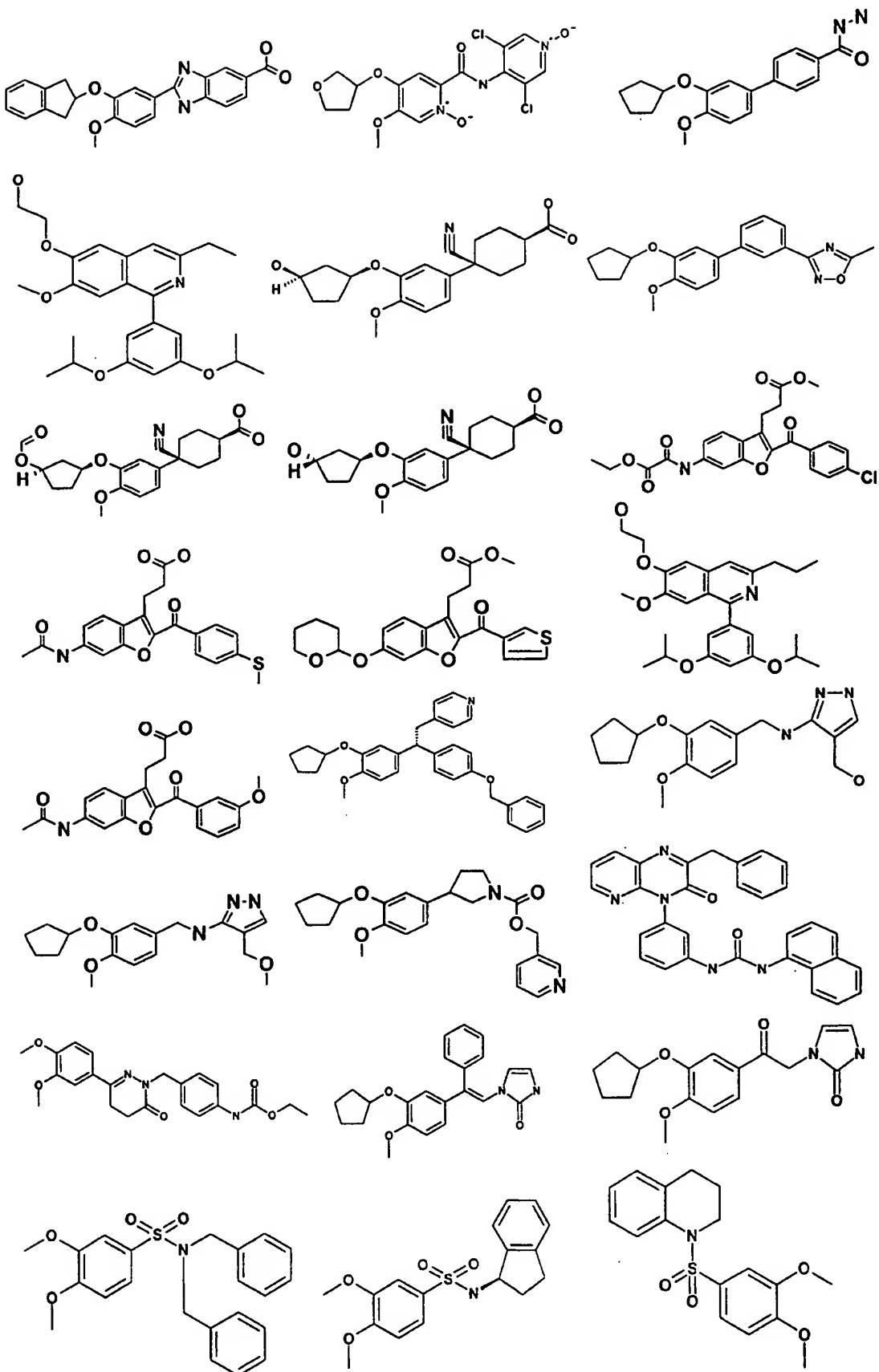
PDE inhibitors which can be used as respiratory tract therapeutics in the sense of the present invention are those compounds which slow the breakdown of cyclic AMP (cAMP) or cyclic GMP (cGMP) by inhibition of the phosphodiesterases, which can lead to a relative increase in the intracellular concentration of cAMP or cGMP.

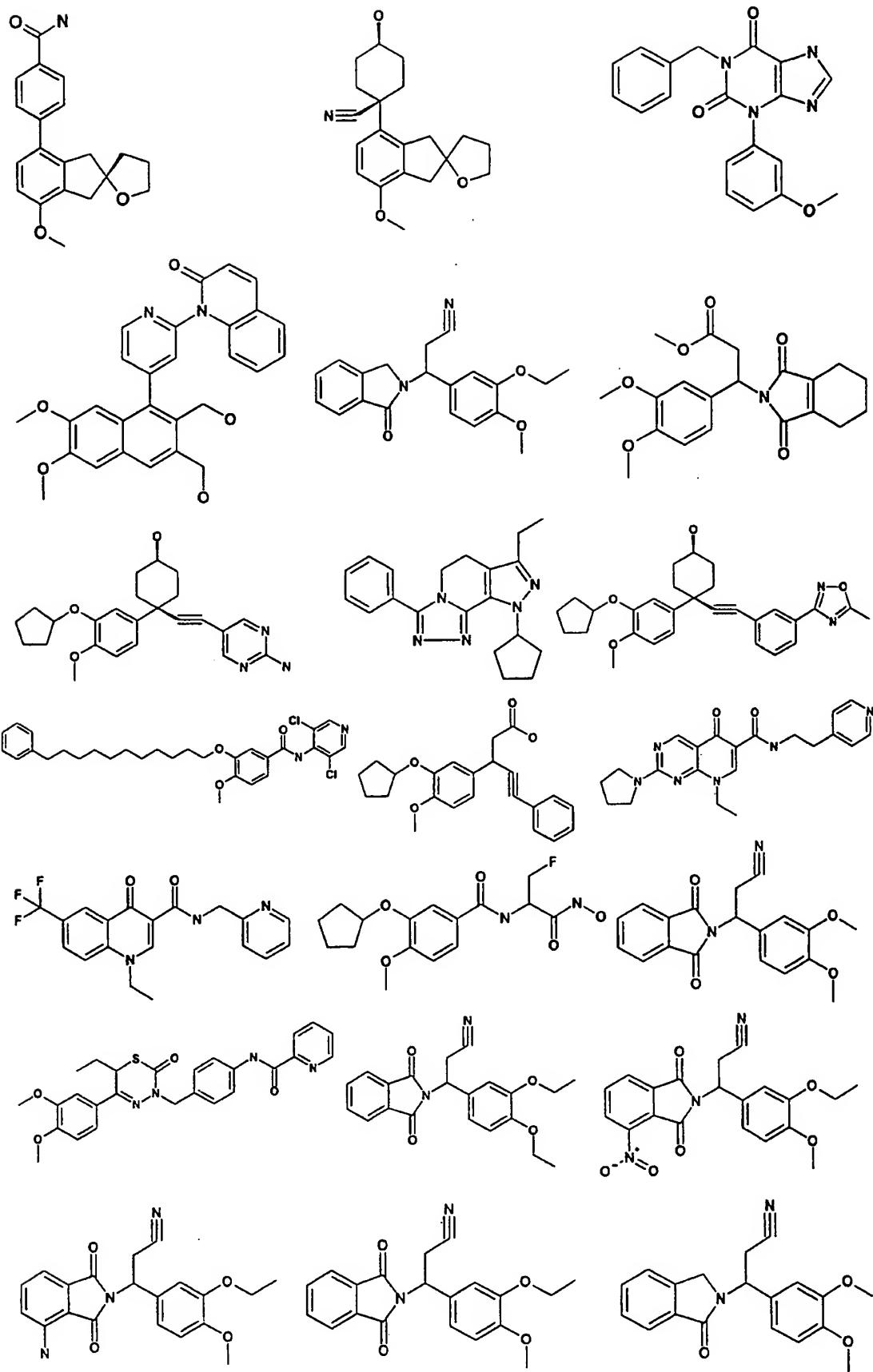
Possible PDE inhibitors within the meaning of the present invention are primarily those substances which are to be considered part of the PDE4 inhibitor class and those substances which can be designated as mixed types of PDE3/4 inhibitors. By way of example, those PDE inhibitors may be mentioned which are described or claimed in the following patent applications and patents: DE 1545687, DE 2028869, DE 2123328, DE 2315801, DE 2402908, DE 2413935, DE 3900233, EP 0103497, EP 0139464, EP 0158380, EP 0163965, EP 0335386, EP 0389282, EP 0428302, EP 0435811, EP 0459505, EP 0470805, EP 0490823, EP 0506194, EP 0511865, EP 0527117, EP 0557016, EP 0626939, EP 0664289, EP 0671389, EP 0685474, EP 0685475, EP 0685479, EP 0736532, EP 0738715, EP 0748805, EP 0763534, EP 0816357, EP 0819688, EP 0819689, EP 0832886, EP 0834508, EP 0848000, JP 92234389, JP 94329652, JP 95010875, JP 98072415, JP 98147585, US 5703098, US 5739144, WO 9117991, WO 9200968, WO 9212961, WO 9307146, WO 9315044, WO 9315045, WO 9318024, WO 9319068, WO 9319720, WO 9319747, WO 9319749, WO 9319751, WO 9325517, WO 9402465, WO 9412461, WO 9420455, WO 9422852, WO 9427947, WO 9501338, WO 9501980, WO 9503794, WO 9504045, WO 9504046, WO 9505386, WO 9508534, WO 9509623, WO 9509624, WO 9509627, WO 9509836, WO 9514667, WO 9514680, WO 9514681, WO 9517392, WO 9517399, WO 9519362, WO 9520578, WO 9522520, WO 9524381, WO 9527692, WO 9535281, WO 9535283, WO 9535284, WO 9600218, WO 9601825, WO 9606843, WO 9611690, WO 9611917, WO 9612720, WO 9631486, WO 9631487, WO 9635683, WO 9636595, WO 9636596, WO 9636611, WO 9636625, WO 9636638, WO 9638150, WO 9639408, WO 9640636, WO 9703967, WO 9704779, WO 9705105, WO 9708143, WO 9709345, WO 9712895, WO 9718208, WO 9719078, WO 9720833, WO 9722585, WO 9722586, WO 9723457, WO 9723460, WO 9723461, WO 9724117, WO 9724355, WO 9725312, WO 9728131, WO 9730999, WO 9731000, WO 9732853, WO 9735854, WO 9736905, WO 9743288, WO 9744036, WO 9744322, WO 9747604, WO 9748697, WO 9804534, WO 9805327, WO 9806692, WO 9806704, WO 9807715, WO 9808828, WO 9808830, WO 9808841, WO 9808844, WO 9809946, WO 9809961, WO 9811113, WO 9814448, WO 9818796, WO 9821208, WO 9822453, WO 9845268, WO 9855481, WO 9856756, WO 9905111, WO 9905112, WO 9505113, WO 9906404 and WO 9918095. Those PDE inhibitors are to be emphasized which are claimed in the patent applications or patents EP 0393500, EP 0510562, EP 0553174, WO 9501338, WO 9603399, WO 9636625, WO 9636626, WO 9735854, WO 9821208, WO 9831674, WO 9840382, WO 9855481, WO 9905111, WO 9905112, WO 9905113, WO 9931071 and WO 9931090. Substances having good oral availability are preferred here.

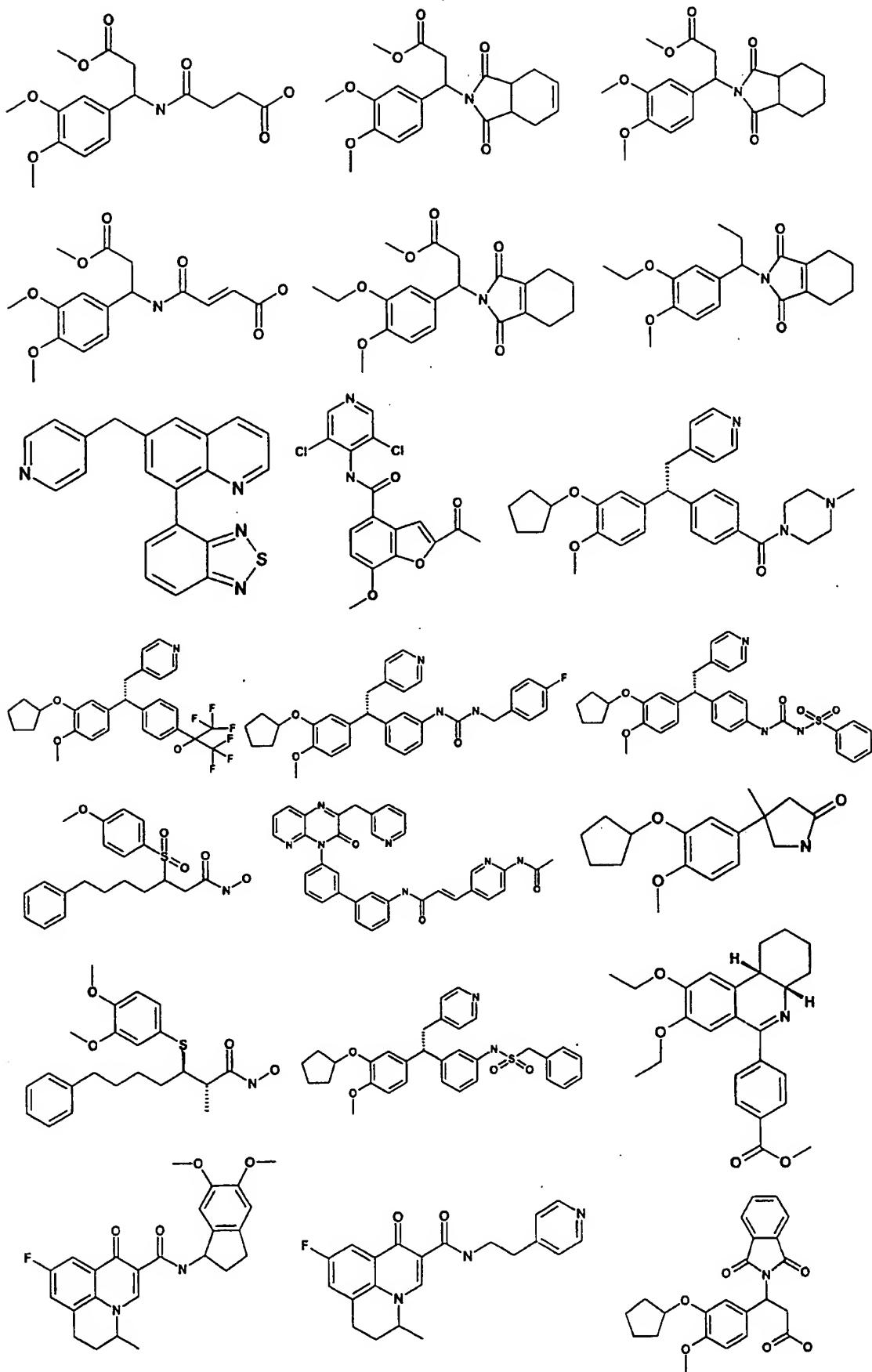
Exemplary PDE inhibitors are shown on the following pages with the aid of their formulae:

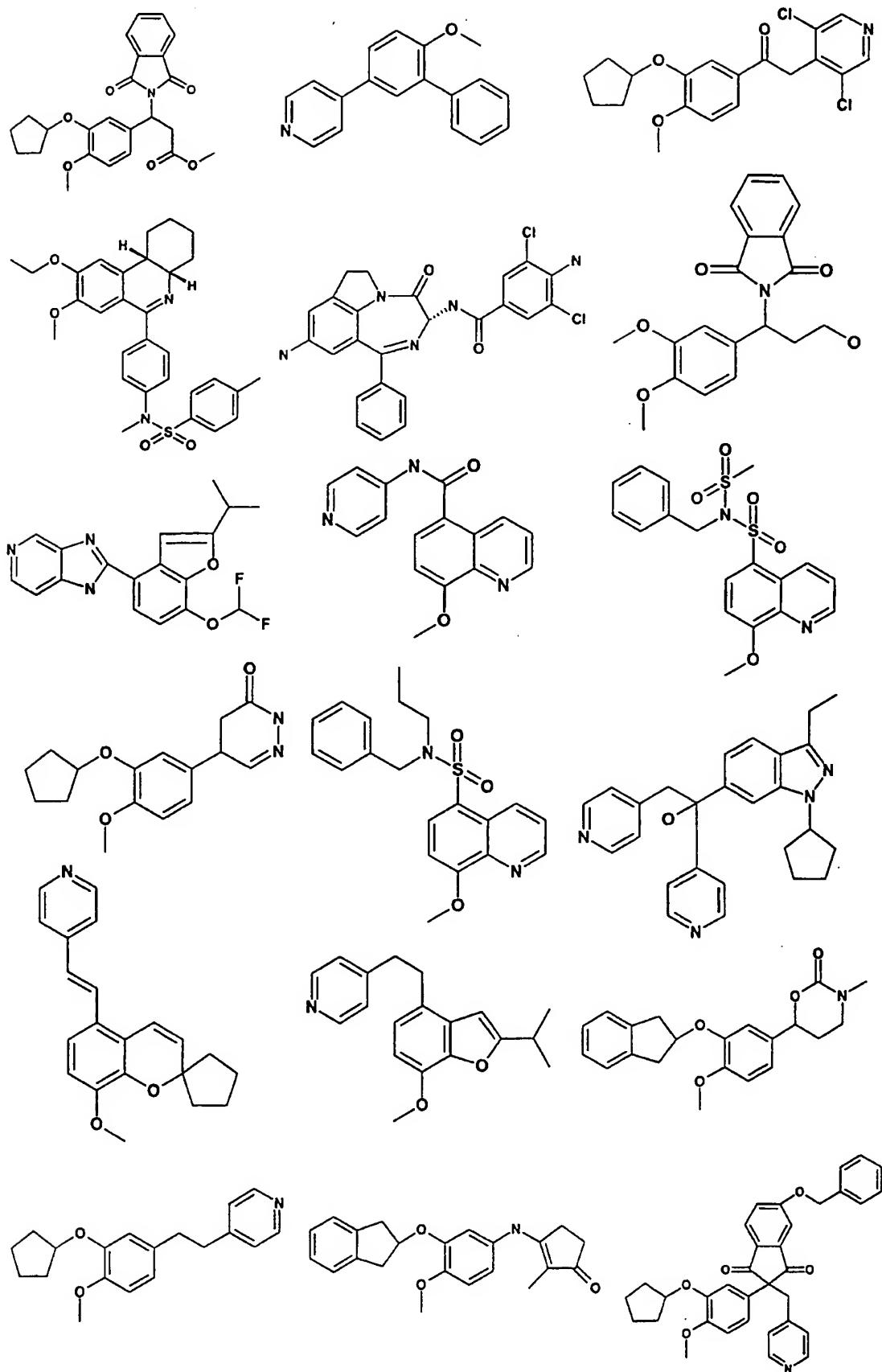


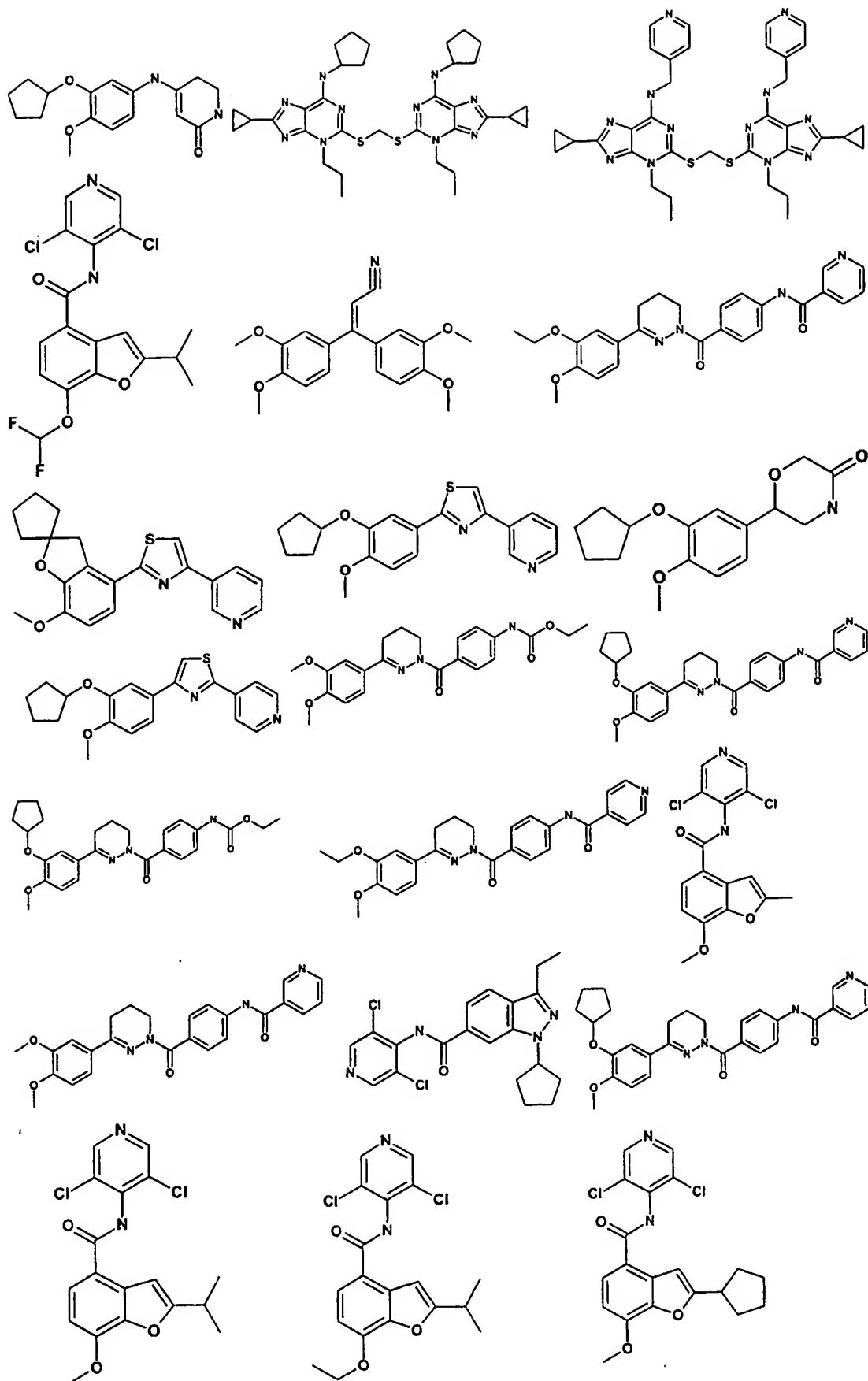


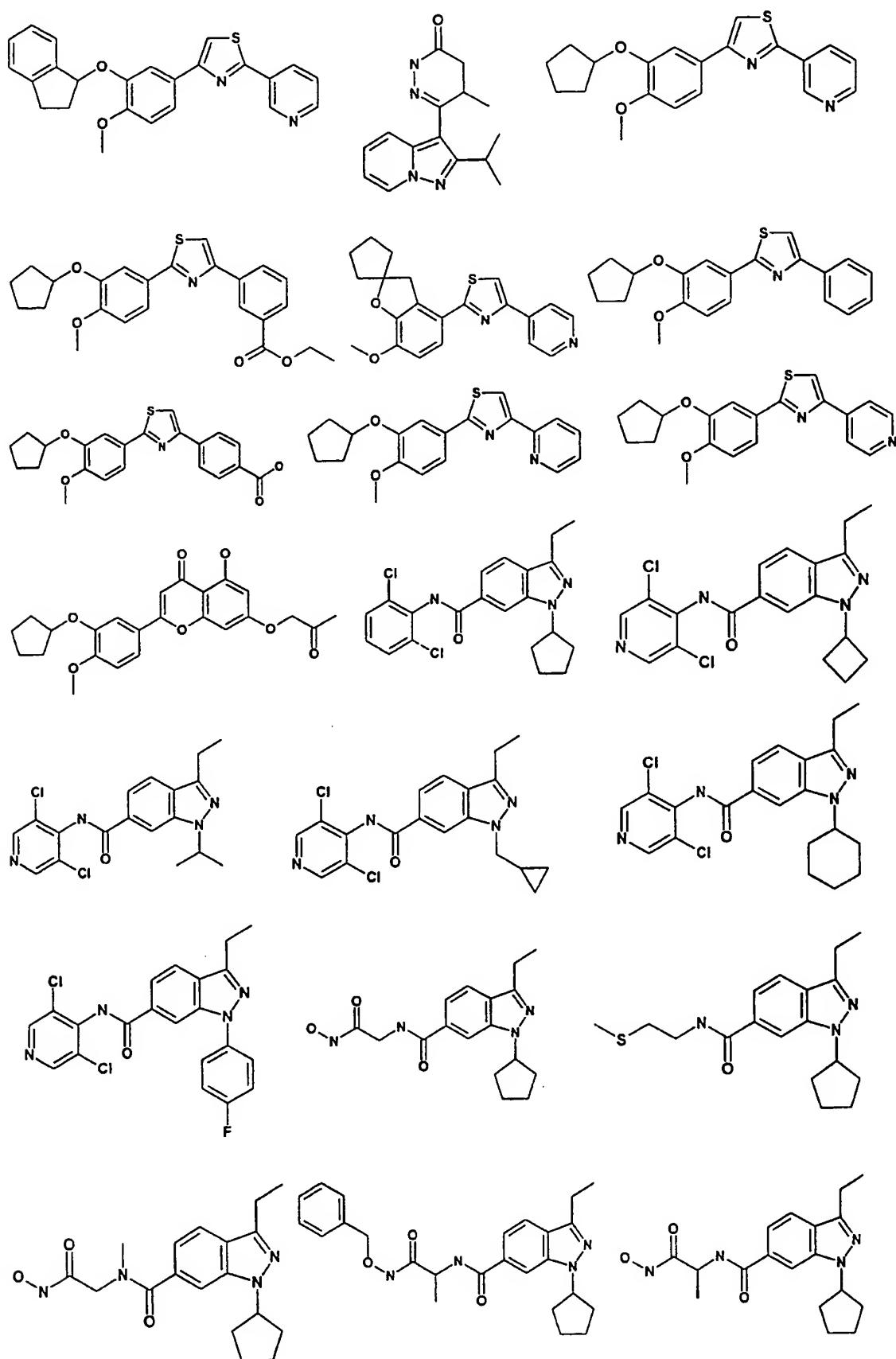


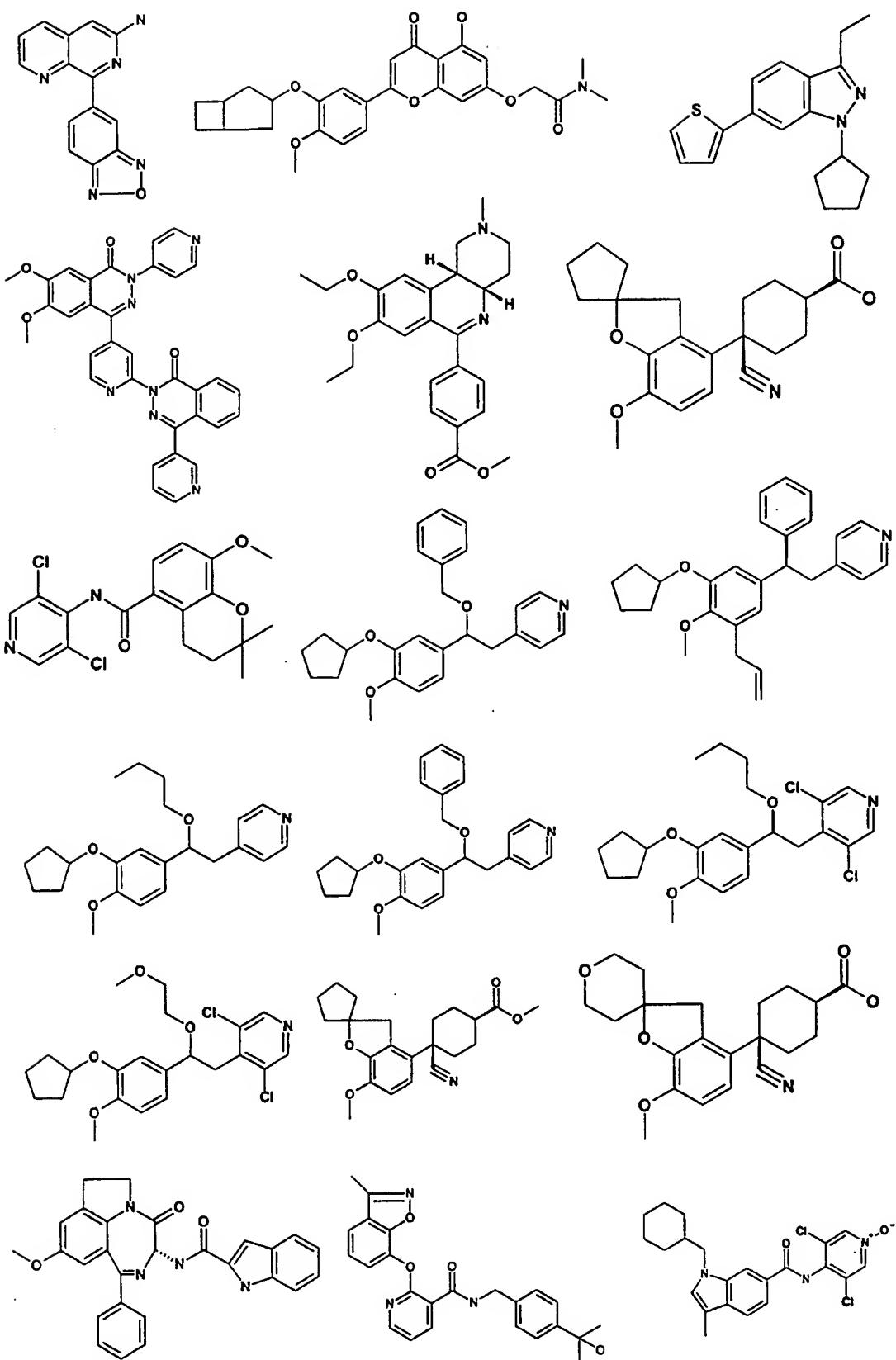


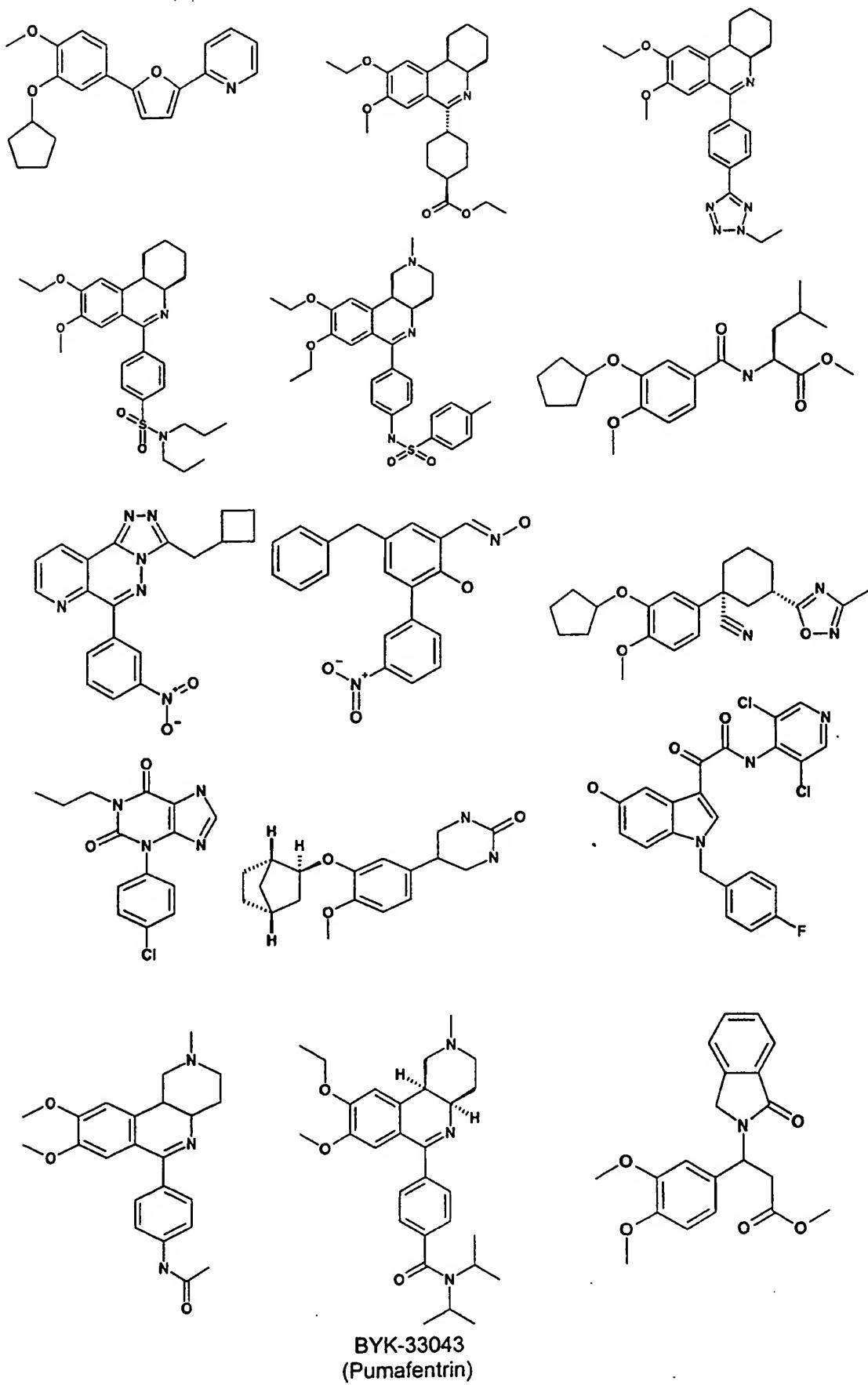


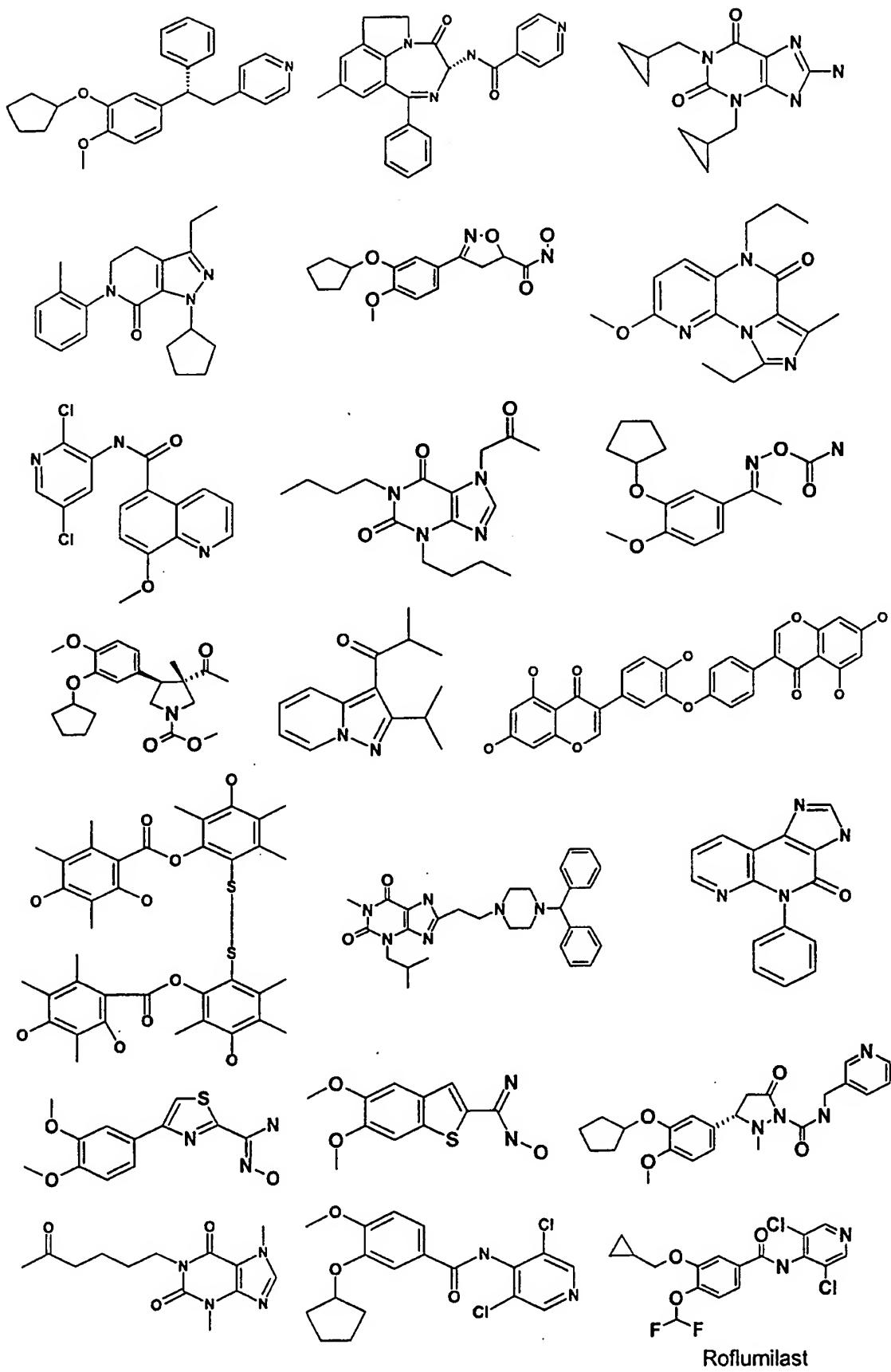




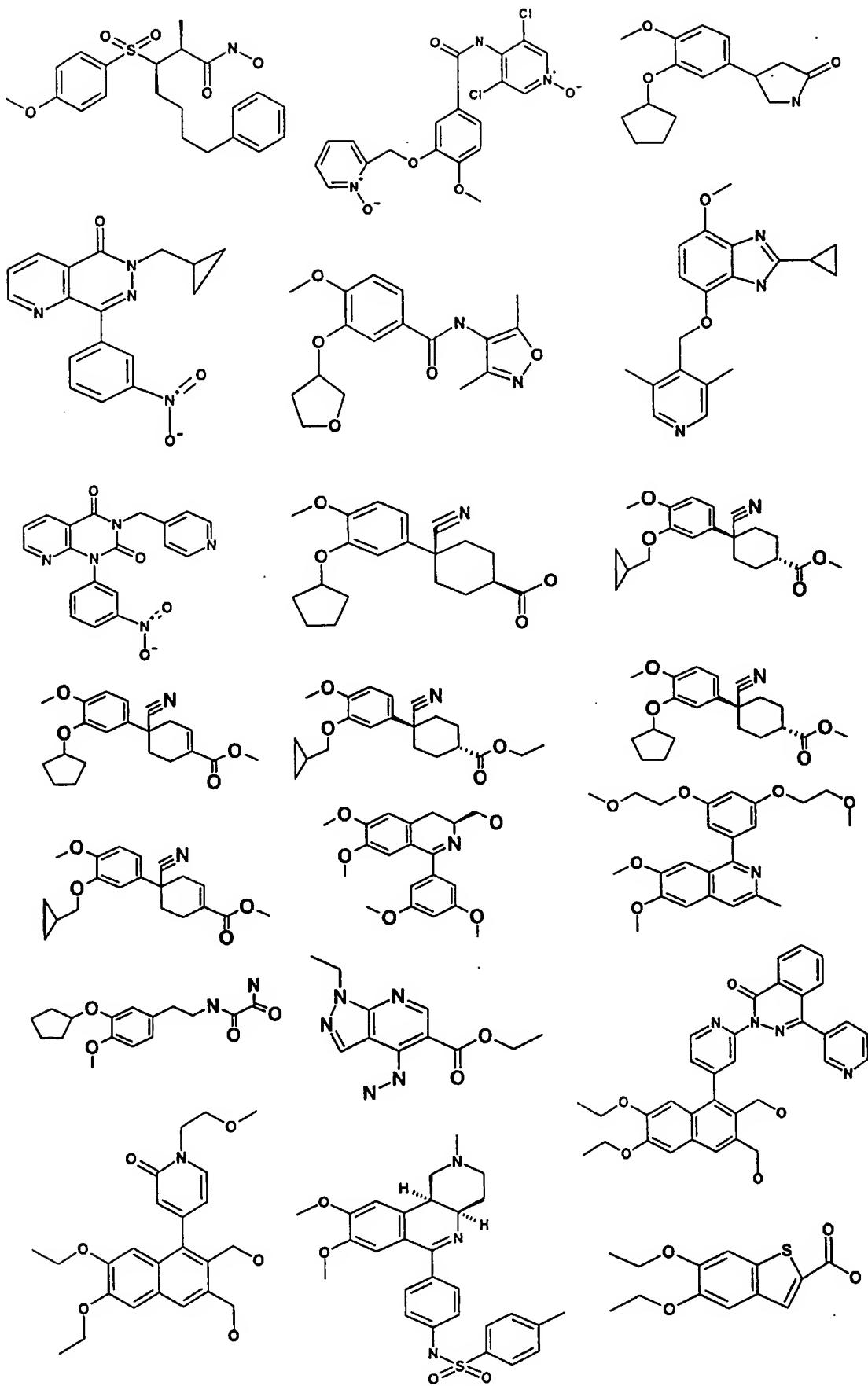


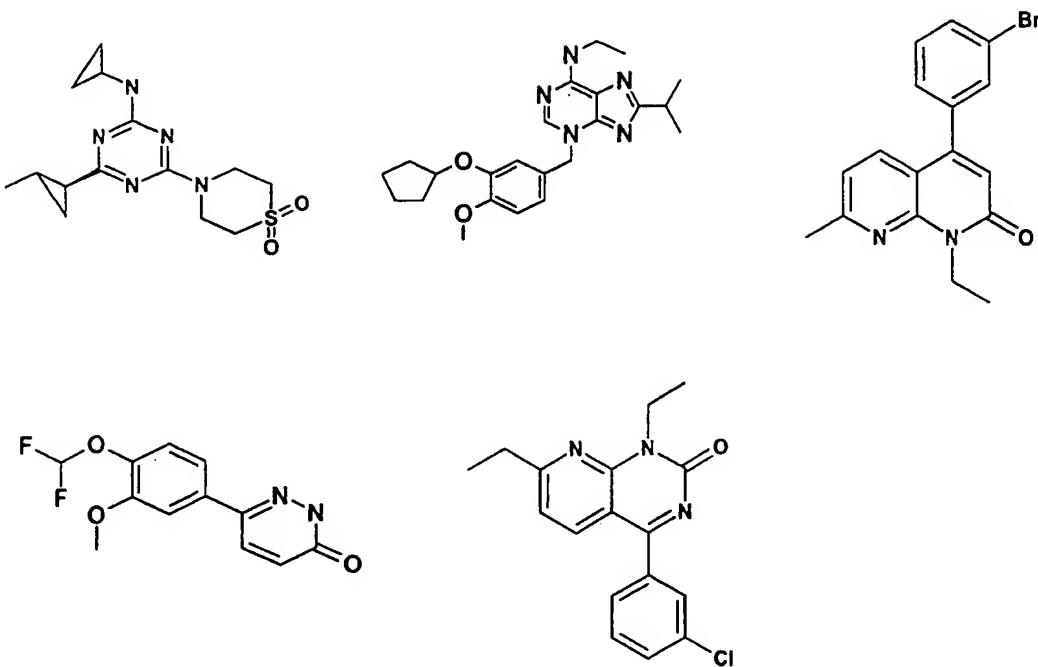






## Roflumilast





No hydrogen atoms are indicated in the above formulae. -O is accordingly -OH, -N is NH<sub>2</sub>. Methyl groups, e.g. on the oxygen atoms, are indicated by lines.

PDE inhibitors to be emphasized which are selected from the abovementioned compounds and which may be mentioned are the active compounds arofylline, atizoram, AWD-12-281, BAY-19-8004, benafentrine, BYK-33043, CC-3052, CDP-840, CI-1018, cipamfylline, CP-220629, CP-293121, D-22888, D-4396, D-4418, denbufylline, filaminast, GW-3600, ibudilast, KF-17625, KS-506-G, laprafylline, NA-0226A, NA-23063A, ORG-20241, ORG-30029, PDB-093, pentoxifylline, piclamilast, roflumilast, rolipram, RPR-117658, RPR-122818, RPR-132294, RPR-132703, RS-17597, RS-25344-000, SB-207499, SB-210667, SB-211572, SB-211600, SB-212066, SB-212179, SDZ-ISQ-844, SDZ-MNS-949, SKF-107806, SQ-20006, T-2585, T-440, tibenelast, tolafentrine, UCB-29646, V-11294A, YM-58997, YM-976 and zardaverine.

The compounds preferred from the group of the abovementioned PDE inhibitors are arofylline, cipamfylline, D-4418, filaminast, ibudilast, laprafylline, ORG-20241, piclamilast, rolipram, SB-207499, tibenelast and V-11294A. The compounds particularly preferred are BYK-33043 and in particular roflumilast.

$\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists which may particularly be mentioned are those selectively acting substances which only have a slight cardiac action and therefore are also employed in therapy, in particular in the oral therapy of respiratory tract disorders.  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists which may be mentioned are, for example: AR-C68397AA, broxaterol, CHF-1035,

HOKU-81, ibuterol, KUL-1248, soterenol, meluadrine, TA-2005, tiaramide, salbutamol, levosalbutamol, tulobuterol, terbutaline, carbuterol, pirbuterol, reproterol, clenbuterol, fenoterol, hexoprenaline, orciprenaline, isoprenaline, formoterol, salmeterol, rimiterol, procaterol, bambuterol, bitolterol and mabuterol. The orally readily available  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists such as clenbuterol, orciprenaline, salbutamol, terbutaline, tulobuterol, bambuterol and reproterol are preferred. Particularly preferred are the so-called long acting  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists, such as salmeterol.

The PDE inhibitors and the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists can be present as such or in chemically bonded form. It is understood hereby that the active compounds mentioned can also be present, for example, in the form of their pharmacologically tolerable salts and/or as solvates (e.g. hydrates), and/or in the form of their N-oxides etc. Suitable pharmacologically tolerable salts here are in particular water-soluble and water-insoluble acid addition salts with acids such as, for example, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, nitric acid, sulfuric acid, acetic acid, citric acid, D-gluconic acid, benzoic acid, 2-(4-hydroxybenzoyl)-benzoic acid, butyric acid, sulfosalicylic acid, maleic acid, lauric acid, malic acid, fumaric acid, succinic acid, oxalic acid, tartaric acid, embonic acid, stearic acid, toluenesulfonic acid, methanesulfonic acid or 1-hydroxy-2-naphthoic acid, the acids being employed in salt preparation – depending on whether it is a mono- or polybasic acid and depending on which salt is desired – in an equimolar quantitative ratio or one differing therefrom. Furthermore, the active compounds mentioned can also be present as pure enantiomers or as enantiomer mixtures in any mixing ratio.

Respiratory tract disorders which may be mentioned are in particular allergen- and inflammation-induced bronchial disorders (bronchitis, obstructive bronchitis, spastic bronchitis, allergic bronchitis, allergic asthma, bronchial asthma, COPD), which can be treated by the combination according to the invention also in the sense of a long-term therapy (if desired with appropriate adjustment of the dose of the individual components to the needs at the time, for example needs subject to seasonally related variations).

"Combined use" or "combination" within the meaning of the present invention is to be understood as meaning that the individual components can be administered simultaneously (in the form of a combination medicament), more or less simultaneously (from separate pack units) or in succession (directly in succession or else alternatively at a relatively large time interval) in a manner which is known per se and customary.

Within the meaning of the present invention, "use" is preferably understood as meaning the oral administration of both active compounds. If only the PDE inhibitor is administered orally, "use" with respect to the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is understood in particular as meaning

topical application in inhalatory form. For this, the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is preferably administered by inhalation in the form of an aerosol, the aerosol particles of solid, liquid or mixed composition having a diameter of 0.5 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ , advantageously of 2 to 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Aerosol generation can be carried out, for example, by pressure-driven jet atomizers or ultrasonic atomizers, but advantageously by propellant-driven metered aerosols or propellant-free administration of micronized active compounds from inhalation capsules.

The active compounds are dosed in an order of magnitude customary for the individual dose, it more likely being possible, on account of the individual actions, which are mutually positively influencing and reinforcing, to reduce the respective doses on the combined administration of the active compounds compared with the norm. Customarily, the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist (depending on potency) is administered in a dose of, for example, 0.002 to 2.0 mg per day on administration by inhalation.

Depending on the inhaler system used, in addition to the active compounds the administration forms additionally contain the required excipients, such as, for example, propellants (e.g. Frigen in the case of metered aerosols), surface-active substances, emulsifiers, stabilizers, preservatives, flavorings, fillers (e.g. lactose in the case of powder inhalers) or, if appropriate, further active compounds.

For the purposes of inhalation, a large number of apparatuses are available with which aerosols of optimum particle size can be generated and administered, using an inhalation technique which is as right as possible for the patient. In addition to the use of adaptors (spacers, expanders) and pear-shaped containers (e.g. Nebulator®, Volumatic®), and automatic devices emitting a puffer spray (Autohaler®), for metered aerosols, in particular in the case of powder inhalers, a number of technical solutions are available (e.g. Diskhaler®, Rotadisk®, Turbohaler® or the inhaler described in European Patent Application EP 0 505 321), using which an optimal administration of active compound can be achieved.

In the case of the oral administration of the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists together with the PDE inhibitor, which is the preferred administration form, the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is administered in a daily dose of, for example, 0.05 to 60 mg. For the PDE inhibitors, it is possible in the case of oral administration to vary the doses – depending on the active compound – within a wide range, it being possible, as bounds, to start from a dose of 1 - 2000  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  of body weight. In the case of the administration of the preferred PDE inhibitor roflumilast, the dose is in the range from 2 - 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  of body weight.

The PDE inhibitors to be administered orally are formulated – if appropriate together with the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists – to give medicaments according to processes known per se and

familiar to the person skilled in the art. The pharmacologically active compounds are employed as medicaments, preferably in combination with suitable pharmaceutical excipients or vehicles, in the form of tablets, coated tablets, capsules, emulsions, suspensions or solutions, the active compound content advantageously being between 0.1 and 95% and, by the appropriate choice of the excipients and vehicles, it being possible to achieve a pharmaceutical administration form precisely tailored to the active compound(s) and/or to the desired onset of action (e.g. a sustained-release form or an enteric form). Particularly worthy of mention within the meaning of the combined, oral administration of both active compounds according to the invention are oral administration forms, e.g. tablets or capsules, in which one part of the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist and the PDE inhibitor is present in non sustained-release form and a further, preferably larger part, of the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is present in sustained-release form.

The person skilled in the art is familiar on the basis of his/her expert knowledge with which excipients or vehicles are suitable for the desired pharmaceutical formulations. In addition to solvents, gel-forming agents, tablet excipients and other active compound carriers, it is possible to use, for example, antioxidants, dispersants, emulsifiers, antifoams, flavor corrigents, preservatives, solubilizers, colorants or permeation promoters and complexing agents (e.g. cyclodextrins).

## Pharmacology

### Model

**Late Inflammatory Airway Reaction in the Ovalbumin-sensitized/-challenged Brown-Norway Rat**  
Anti-inflammatory activity of Roflumilast, Pumafentrine (BYK-33043), and Salmeterol was determined in ovalbumin (OVA)-sensitized and OVA-challenged Brown Norway rats. Sensitization was done by simultaneous injection of Bordetella pertussis suspension i.p. and OVA/AHG suspension s.c. on day 1, 14 and 21. 28 days after start of sensitization, conscious Brown-Norway rats were challenged by inhalation of the aerosolized OVA solution for 1 h (~20 ml/h). Non-challenged, only sensitized animals were used as baseline control. The drugs (thoroughly mixed with lactose) or the placebo control (lactose) were administered intratracheally (i.t.) as dry powders 1 h before OVA-challenge. 48h later, OVA-challenged or non-challenged animals were anaesthetized and bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) was performed using 3x4 ml BAL buffer per animal. The number of total cells and eosinophils in the BAL fluid, and the concentration of protein in the cell-free BAL fluid were determined. Drug-induced relative changes were calculated and statistically analyzed by the Jonckheere Terpstra test.

### Results

Compound	PDE3/4 IC50[μmol] ]	Dose [μmol/kg ]	Appl. Route	N	% Inhibition of Infiltration/Accumulation [Median / Mean ± SEM]		
					Total cells	EOS	Protein
Roflumilast	>10/0.0007	0.3	it	8	-25	-15	-8
					-37.6±26.7	-22±25.7	-22.3±25.5
Pumafentrine	0.028/0.007	3	it	8	-19	-26	17
					-39.1±30.5	-28.5±30.1	23.5±10.6
Salmeterol		3	it	8	19	39	44
					6.3±17.9	31±14.8	37.5±16.2
Salmeterol/ Roflumilast		3/0.3	it	8	50	67 **	59 **
					34.5±21.1	61.1±7.9 **	50.8±13.6 **
Salmeterol/ Pumafentrine		3/3	it	8	56 *	85 **	75 **
					58.1±12.3 *	83±3.7 **	67.1±11.1 **

\*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01 v.s. untreated, OVA-challenged control groups

### Summary

The PDE inhibitors Roflumilast (PDE4 inhibitor) and Pumafentrine (PDE3>4 inhibitor) administered at doses of 0.3 μmol/kg and 3 μmol/kg i.t., respectively, did not show any significant effects on cell infiltration and protein accumulation. The negative values obtained (trend: amplification of inflammation) fall into the range of biological variability of the model and therefore, no significance must be attached to these data.

In contrast, the long-acting  $\beta$ 2-adrenergic receptor agonist Salmeterol given at a dose of 3  $\mu$ mol/kg i.t exhibited inhibitory effects on total cell and eosinophil influx into alveolar space and protein levels in BAL fluid. However, the data failed to reach significance.

Co-administration of the PDE inhibitor Roflumilast or Pumafentrine with Salmeterol resulted in synergistic effects compared to administration of every compound alone, i.e. both PDE inhibitors combined with the  $\beta$ 2 agonist displayed a significant inhibition of eosinophilia and reduction of protein concentration in the BAL fluid. The combination of the PDE3/4 inhibitor Pumafentrine and Salmeterol was more efficacious on all parameters measured (difference was not significant), and additionally, showed a significant effect on inhibition of total cell influx into the alveolar space.

Patent claims

1. A medicament comprising a PDE inhibitor, which is to be administered orally, from the PDE4 or PDE3/4 inhibitors group combined with a  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist in fixed or free combination.
2. The medicament as claimed in claim 1, which is a fixed oral combination.
3. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2 for use in the therapeutic treatment of respiratory tract disorders.
4. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is a compound selected from the group consisting of arofylline, cipamylline, D-4418, filaminast, ibudilast, laprafylline, ORG-20241, piclamilast, rolipram, SB-207499, tibenelast and V-11294A or a salt thereof.
5. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is roflumilast, its salt and/or its N-oxide.
6. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is BYK-33043, its salt and/or its N-oxide.
7. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is roflumilast, its salt and/or its N-oxide and the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is salmeterol or a salt thereof.
8. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is BYK-33043, its salt and/or its N-oxide and the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is salmeterol or a salt thereof.
9. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is clenbuterol, orciprenaline, salbutamol, terbutaline, tulobuterol, bambuterol or reproterol or a salt thereof.
10. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is arofylline, cipamylline, D-4418, filaminast, ibudilast, laprafylline, ORG-20241, piclamilast, rolipram, SB-207499, tibenelast or V-11294A or a salt thereof, and the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is clenbuterol, orciprenaline, salbutamol, terbutaline, tulobuterol, bambuterol or reproterol or a salt thereof.

11. The medicament as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the PDE inhibitor is roflumilast or BYK-33043, their salts and/or their N-oxides and the  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist is clenbuterol, orciprenaline, salbutamol, terbutaline, tulobuterol, bambuterol or reproterol or a salt thereof.
12. The use of a PDE inhibitor, which is to be administered orally, from the PDE4- or PDE3/4 inhibitors group in the combined use with a  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist in the therapeutic treatment of respiratory tract disorders.

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
1 March 2001 (01.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/13953 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61K 45/06, A61P 11/00**

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/EP00/07852**

(22) International Filing Date: 11 August 2000 (11.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
99116447.6 21 August 1999 (21.08.1999) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BYK GULDEN LOMBERG CHEMISCHE FABRIK GMBH [DE/DE]; Patentabteilung, Byk-Gulden-Strasse 2, D-78467 Konstanz (DE).**

(72) Inventors (for all designated States except CA, US): **BEUME, Rolf; Bohlstrasse 13, D-78465 Konstanz (DE). BUNDSCHUH, Daniela; Rheingutstrasse 17, D-78462 Konstanz (DE).**

(72) Inventors (for all designated States except CA, US): **HATZELMANN, Armin; Alter Wall 3, D-78467 Konstanz (DE). SCHUDT, Christian; Schützenstrasse 20, D-78462 Konstanz (DE). WEIMAR, Christian; Eichhornstrasse 51, D-78464 Konstanz (DE).**

(72) Inventor; and  
(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **KILIAN, Ulrich [DE/DE]; Am Dachsberg 18, D-78479 Reichenau (DE).**

(74) Common Representative: **BYK GULDEN LOMBERG CHEMISCHE FABRIK GMBH; Patentabteilung, Byk-Gulden-Strasse 2, D-78467 Konstanz (DE).**

(81) Designated States (national): **AE, AL, AU, BA, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, EE, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, JP, KR, LT, LV, MK, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG, SI, SK, TR, UA, US, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.**

(84) Designated States (regional): **Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).**

Published:  
— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
20 September 2001

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



**WO 01/13953 A3**

(54) Title: SYNERGISTIC COMBINATION OF PDE INHIBITORS AND BETA 2 ADRENOCEPTOR AGONIST

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the combined administration of PDE inhibitors and  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists for the treatment of respiratory tract disorders.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/07852

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 A61K45/06 A61P11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, AIDSLINE, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data, CANCERLIT, EMBASE, MEDLINE, PAJ, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 840 537 A (GARSIDE S ET AL) 8 October 1974 (1974-10-08) abstract column 2, line 63 -column 3, line 5 ---	1-3,9,12
X	FR 2 390 164 A (BLANIE PAUL) 8 December 1978 (1978-12-08) page 1, line 1-21 ---	1-3,9,12
X	US 5 602 110 A (DRUMM MITCHELL L ET AL) 11 February 1997 (1997-02-11) column 3, line 44 - line 54 claims 1-3 ---	1-3,9,12
X	US 3 941 785 A (CLARKE ROBERT WILLIAM ET AL) 2 March 1976 (1976-03-02) column 3, line 13 - line 21 column 1, line 14 - line 25 ---	1-3,9,12
	-/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 February 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/02/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA  
 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Leherte, C

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/07852

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	RAEBURN, DAVID (1) ET AL: "Anti-inflammatory and bronchodilator properties of RP 73401, a novel and selective phosphodiesterase type IV inhibitor." BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY, (1994) VOL. 113, NO. 4, PP. 1423-1431., XP000889938 page 1428, column 1, paragraph 2 ---	1,3,4,9, 10,12
X	BLEASE, KATE ET AL: "Modulation of cell adhesion molecule expression and function on human lung microvascular endothelial cells by inhibition of phosphodiesterases 3 and 4." BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY, (MAY, 1998) VOL. 124, NO. 1, PP. 229-237, XP000890110 page 232, column 2, paragraph 4 page 231; figure 2 ---	1,3,4,9, 10,12
X	DENT, GORDON ET AL: "Suppression of Human Eosinophil Respiratory Burst and Cyclic AMP Hydrolysis by Inhibitors of Type IV Phosphodiesterase: Interaction with the Beta Adrenoceptor Agonist Albuterol." JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS, (1994) VOL. 271, NO. 3, PP. 1167-1174., XP000889916 page 1170, column 1, paragraph 3 -page 1171, column 2, paragraph 1 ---	1,3,4,9, 10,12
X	PLANQUOIS, JM ET AL: "Salbutamol potentiates the relaxant effects of selective phosphodiesterase inhibitors on guinea pig isolated trachea" FUNDAM. CLIN. PHARMACOL. (1996), 10(4), 356-367, 1996, XP000889917 page 360, column 1, paragraph 4 -column 2, paragraph 1; figure 2 ---	1,3,4,9, 10,12

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 1-6, 9, 12

Present claims 1-6, 9 and 12 relate to a compounds defined (*inter alia*) by reference to the following parameters: "PDE4 or PDE 3/4-inhibitors" and "beta 2-adrenoceptor agonist".

The use of these parameters in the present context is considered to lead to a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT. It is impossible to compare the parameters the applicant has chosen to employ with what is set out in the prior art. The lack of clarity is such as to render a meaningful complete search impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to the combinations of claims 7, 8, 10 and 11, with due regard to the therapeutic application mentioned in claim 3 and 12.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/07852

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
US 3840537	A 08-10-1974	GB 1400999 A			16-07-1975
		AT 321923 B			25-04-1975
		AU 472127 B			20-05-1976
		AU 4819172 A			16-05-1974
		BE 791025 A			07-05-1973
		CA 990292 A			01-06-1976
		CH 594671 A			13-01-1978
		DE 2255172 A			24-05-1973
		DK 138691 B			16-10-1978
		ES 408736 A			01-03-1976
		FR 2160407 A			29-06-1973
		IE 37046 B			27-04-1977
		IL 40686 A			31-12-1975
		JP 1059812 C			25-08-1981
		JP 48057993 A			14-08-1973
		JP 56003873 B			27-01-1981
		NL 7215646 A			22-05-1973
		PH 9669 A			10-02-1976
		SE 402915 B			24-07-1978
		ZA 7207532 A			25-07-1973
FR 2390164	A 08-12-1978	NONE			
US 5602110	A 11-02-1997	AU 3541595 A			22-03-1996
		WO 9606612 A			07-03-1996
US 3941785	A 02-03-1976	GB 1457873 A			08-12-1976
		AT 336029 B			12-04-1977
		AT 2374 A			15-08-1976
		AU 474078 B			15-07-1976
		AU 6377473 A			19-06-1975
		BE 809369 A			03-07-1974
		CA 1005057 A			08-02-1977
		CH 618170 A			15-07-1980
		DE 2364076 A			18-07-1974
		ES 422001 A			01-08-1976
		FI 57260 B			31-03-1980
		FI 793137 A			10-10-1979
		FR 2213058 A			02-08-1974
		IE 38681 B			10-05-1978
		IL 43872 A			31-01-1979
		JP 49095994 A			11-09-1974
		LU 69099 A			02-04-1974
		NL 7400095 A			08-07-1974
		NO 140301 B			30-04-1979
		SE 408179 B			21-05-1979
		ZA 7309534 A			27-11-1974